

**REMARKS**

With this Amendment, claims 9, 12, 17, and 18 are cancelled and new claims 19-33 are added. Therefore, claims 19-33 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

**New Claims**

With this Amendment, new claims 19-33 are added. New claims 19-29 correspond to originally-filed claims 1-11 and 13-16. No new matter is added. Independent claims 19, 29, 30, and 32 further include the limitation “wherein an amount of said ink not having color material that is discharged is determined according to an amount of said ink having color material that is discharged.” (claim 19, see also claims 29, 30, and 32).

**Claim Objections and Rejections**

All claims which were objected to or rejected are currently cancelled.

Regarding the prior art rejections of the cancelled claims over combinations of Oikawa (U.S. Patent 6,371,609), Tajika (U.S. Patent 6,120,141), Kitakami (U.S. Patent 6,601,945), Shibata (U.S. Patent 6,779,865), and Kanda (U.S. Patent 6,471,322), Applicants submit that no reasonable combination of the cited references teaches or suggests the above discussed limitation of “wherein an amount of said ink not having color material that is discharged is determined according to an amount of said ink having color material that is discharged.”

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 19, 29, 30, and 32 are patentable over any combination of the cited references and that claims 20-28, 31, and 33 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependence.

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Laura Moskowitz  
Registration No. 55,470

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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